

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: KINGSLEY RICHARD CHIN  
Serial No.: 10/669,927  
Filed: 9/24/2003  
Attorney Docket No.: KC-104  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING SPINAL VERTEBRAE

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EXAMINER: CANDICE C. STOKES

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O.Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Office communication concerning the above mentioned application of October 6, 2006 Applicant respectfully submits the following response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Formal Drawing** for FIG. 9 is attached as a separate sheet at the end of this response.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.